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2 March 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: General Craig's Remarks Regarding Peron as an Anti-Communist Factor in South America

1. On 29 December 1953 Lt. General Howard A. Craig, Chairman of the Inter-American Defense Board, came on his own initiative to tell of his then recent tour of South America. The Deputy Director was present, as were Messrs. Montague and [ ] (ONE), [ ] (DCI), and [ ] (DD/P).

2. General Craig's account indicated that he met with a very flattering reception in Argentina. He was very favorably impressed by General Peron and the Peron regime. He made two points relevant to the present subject:

b. Peron made a studied effort to present himself as a fellow general, junior to General Eisenhower and, in effect, available to serve as General Eisenhower's theater commander for the control of Communism in South America.

3. Peron has adopted this "junior general" line with other visitors, notably with Dr. Milton Eisenhower. It is evidently a favorite theme with him. The idea of serving as General Eisenhower's lieutenant for the control of Communism was more fully developed in his interview with General Craig than in any other of which we have knowledge.

LUDWELL MONTAGUE  
Board of National Estimates

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